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ABSTRACT

This issue of the NCEDL Spotlights series announces the availability of a national directory of institutions offering programs for early childhood teachers, "The National Directory of Early Childhood Teacher Preparation Institutions," published by NCEDL and the Council for Professional Recognition. The directory contains listings for nearly 1,400 two- and four-year colleges and is available both on a Web site and in print format. Organized alphabetically by state/jurisdiction and then by city, the directory includes institutions offering associate's degrees and bachelor's degrees, as well as Child Development Associate training and distance-learning programs. Each listing contains the name of the school, address, telephone number, name of contact person, email address, and the early childhood specialty area. The report describes how the directory was prepared and the procedures for updating the directory. The report also provides initial findings from a survey of 600 programs contacted for the directory. (KB)

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NCEDL Spotlights

No. 22 May 2000

Early Childhood Teacher Institutions Listed

Directory of Early Childhood Teacher Prep Colleges Available

A new national directory of institutions that offer programs for early childhood teachers has been published by the National Center For Early Development & Learning (NCEDL), based at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the Council for Professional Recognition (CDA), a nonprofit corporation in Washington, DC.

The National Directory of Early Childhood Teacher Preparation Institutions, which contains listings for nearly 1,400 two- and four-year colleges, is available on line at the CDA web site **www.cdacouncil.org** and in print from CDA.

The directory is organized alphabetically by state/jurisdiction, and then alphabetically by city. Each listing contains the name of the school, address, phone number, a contact person, email address (if provided), and the early childhood specialty area (i.e. infant/toddler, preschool, school-age, etc.)

CDA President Carol Brunson Day said, "There has been a major increase in government attention to the needs of young children. At least 42 states have some sort of early childhood initiative underway, and schools are showing an increasing interest in serving children prior to kindergarten entry. Early childhood teacher preparation programs are playing an increasingly important role in ensuring that the stronger standards for early childhood teachers translate into a more competent, confident workforce, able to serve ALL young children."

Day said that the directory also identifies institutions offering CDA training and distance-learning programs. She said that the mission of the Council for Professional Recognition "is to conduct programs that enhance the status and recognition of early childhood education professionals."

Sample listing from California state section

SANTA ANA
Santa Ana College
Human Development
1530 West 17th Street
Santa Ana, CA 93706

Contact:	GWEN MORGAN-BEAZELL
Title:	CHAIR
Contact number:	714-564-6000 x 6810
Email Address:	
ECE program:	2-year
ECE Coursework:	INFANT-TODDLER
	PRESCHOOL
	SCHOOL-AGE
	DISABILITIES
	FAMILY CHILD CARE
	DISTRANCE LEARNING PROGRAM

Sample listing from Colorado state section

DENVER
Regis University
School for Professional Studies
3333 Regis Blvd.
Denver, CO 80221

Contact:	MARIE WALLACE
Title:	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Contact number:	303-458-4314
Email Address:	MWALLACE@REGIS.EDU
ECE program:	ECE courses
ECE Coursework:	PRESCHOOL
	SCHOOL-AGE
	DISABILITIES
	DISTRANCE LEARNING PROGRAM

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How Directory was Prepared

The list of programs was created by combining information from the U.S. Dept. of Education, American Associate Degree Childhood Educators, National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators, and the previous directory compiled by CDA.

Information has been compiled also for institutions in Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

This is the first such collaboration between NCEDL and CDA.

Please note that institutions that offer a CDA training program develop their curriculum independent of the council's participation or endorsement. Individuals choosing to study in these programs should ensure that the training meets the educational requirements stated in the Child Development Associate Assessment System and Competency Standards book.

Directory Easily Updated

The directory is designed to be easily updated. Contact the Council for Professional Recognition if your institution is not listed or if you wish to add, delete or change information. Telephone 202-265-9090 or 800-424-4310 or email **directory@cdacouncil.org**.

For More Information...

- The directory may be downloaded at **www.cdacouncil.org**
- For information about buying printed copies, which are $8 each, call 1-800-424-4310.
- National Center for Early Development & Learning: **www.ncedl.org**

Survey of institutions

Of the colleges contacted for the directory, a random, stratified selection of 600 programs was made for a telephone survey. Pam Winton and Diane Early at NCEDL directed the phone survey in which 438 colleges participated.

Initial highlights, which are included in the directory itself, include these:

- There are more early childhood programs offering associate's degrees (57%) than there are bachelor's degree programs (40%).
- 88% of those offering CDA training also offer college credit for CDA coursework.
- The mission of most programs, whether associate's or bachelor's, included preparing future teachers to work with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers; preparing early interventionists, and providing training to the existing early childhood workforce.
- Students graduating from bachelor's programs are most likely to teach in kindergarten and elementary settings, and students from associate's degree programs are most likely to work with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

"This survey is timely because the importance of teacher education as a key factor in high-quality childhood programming has been well documented. State and federal programs are slowly strengthening their standards for staff. Head Start has mandated that 50% of program staff must have an associate's degree by 2003," said NCEDL's Pam Winton.

As more data from the survey is analyzed, it will be posted on the NCEDL web site and linked with the CDA web site.

NCEDL is administratively housed at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In addition to UNC-CH, partners in NCEDL are the University of Virginia and the University of California at Los Angeles. This project is supported under the Education Research and Development Centers Program, PR/award number R307A60004, as administered by the Office of Educational Research and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education. Opinions do not necessarily represent the positions or policies of the National Institute on Early Childhood Development and Education www.ed.gov/offices/OERI/ECI/, the Office of Educational Research and Improvement, the U.S. Department of Education, or any other sponsoring organization. Permission is granted to reprint this *Spotlight*; we ask that you acknowledge NCEDL & CDA.

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